

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODEN MONEY COLLECTORS

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C.A.W.M.C. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: by Al Munro

This has been a very busy year for me. I accepted the appointment as General Chairman of the Calgary 2005 C.N.A. convention following the death of long-time CAWMC member and Co-Chairman Earl Salterio. Fortunately I had retired in June of 2004 or I would not have had anywhere near enough time to serve as General Chairman. The General Chairmanship is a very demanding position and I have great respect for all volunteers who have chaired conventions in the past. The Calgary convention included the annual breakfast meeting of the C.A.W.M.C. The meeting was a great success with 21 members and guests in attendance for the business portion of the meeting. It was a pleasure to have members from Ontario, Utah, British Columbia and California in attendance. It was a special pleasure to see several long-time members who have not been at a CAWMC meeting for many years, attend the Calgary breakfast. Our founding president and life member Garry Braunwarth was at the meeting as were past presidents Neil Probert, Stan Clute and the always-present Norm Belsten. Also attending the meeting was someone who has been a member for many years but has never made a previous meeting. Eric Jensen joined CAWMC when he was in Newfoundland and now lives in Calgary. Eric says he has the second largest collection of Newfoundland woods, in the world, and provided members in attendance with some of his duplicate Newfie woods. Art Stephenson drove out from Ontario to visit Calgary where he previously was President of the Calgary Numismatic Society and then drove back to Ontario to face surgery on his leg. I understand Art is now recovering, at home, and on behalf of all CAWMC and CNS members, wish him a speedy recovery. While in Calgary, Art accepted an appointment as Vice President of CAWMC and I welcome him to the position.

The highlight of the Calgary CAWMC meeting, for me, was the presentation of an Honourary Life Membership. I am very honoured to receive this award. I congratulate Norm Belsten who was also presented with this award. Norm has done a great deal for our hobby, for the Southern Ontario Chapter, and for C.A.W.M.C. and is well deserving of the award. Unfortunately, one of the low points of the meeting was the absence of five members of our Association who passed away during the year. Earl Salterio, Jerry Remick, Alf Wrigley, Ted Boxall and Viktor Vidmar were all active contributors to our hobby and will be missed by us all.

Several members were unable to attend our CAWMC meeting due to a conflict with the C.N.A. executive meeting. Every two years the incoming executive meeting conflicts with our CAWMC meeting. Next year, in Niagara Falls, there should be no conflict and we should have a good turn out for our breakfast meeting. John Regitko, Niagara Falls convention Chairman, has asked CAWMC to man a membership table at the convention and I would like all members, who plan to attend, to help us man this table. This 2006 convention runs from July 20th to 23rd, 2006 at the Sheraton Fallsview Hotel and Convention Center in Niagara Falls.

As president, I hope to provide our editor, Ross Kingdon with at least an article a month, for inclusion in Timber Talk, even if it is only a short President's Message. I am appealing to all members to also write a short article for inclusion in our bulletin. The article could be on how you got started collecting woods, your favourite wood, how you discovered a new wood or a request for assistance in identifying a wood in your collection. Timber Talk is our lifeline to our members and it requires articles to live.

I look forward to these next two years as President and I encourage all members to dig deeply into their memories, in order to provide interesting reading for all of our members.

PAST PRESIDENTS:

Garry Braunwarth – 1975-1977

Victor Hall – 1977-1979

Don Robb – 1979-1981

Stan Clute – 1981-1983

Neil Probert – 1983-1985

Norm Belsten – 1985-1991

Pat White – 1991-1995

Lou Vesh – 1995-2001

Earl Salterio – 2001-2003

Norm Belsten – 2003-2005

Editor's Comment: This month's newsletter contains mostly information and 'wood' photos from our C.A.W.M.C. annual general meeting, held this year in Calgary. Hopefully you have read our President's message on page one and will respond to his request that you forward material (personal views etc.) to me for future issues. Next newsletter will also have considerable news and related material from this general meeting. As well, I would like to include something from the recent *Penn-Ohio* wood show. This group of dedicated 'woodies' has currently "For Sale" Part One (25 woods- showing 25 different lighthouses along the southern shore of Lake Erie). I will try to show these woods and give information on obtaining them. Their Part Two, (coming later) will be 25 woods showing lighthouses along Lake Erie's north shore.

This month, I also continue with *Dave Phillips' Alaskan Chronicle*. This is a very interesting series and I hope some members can respond to Dave's requests.

CAWMC member *Larry White* has his year 2005 personal issues for sale and I will show them with information as well.

I have on hand several 'free woods' yet to be distributed, which should last well into the New Year 2006. Many thanks to all those who have donated. **Now Please Send In That Material.**

CAWMC OFFICERS

President: AL MUNRO
 Vice-President: ART STEPHENSON
 Secretary-Treasurer and Membership Chairman:
 AL MUNRO
 Past-President and Chairman of the Board of Governors:
 NORM BELSTEN
 Elected Members of the Board of Governors:
 BOB BROWN, RUSSELL BROWN,
 DAVE GILLESPIE, ED MacPHERSON, LOU VESH
 JAMES WILLISTON.

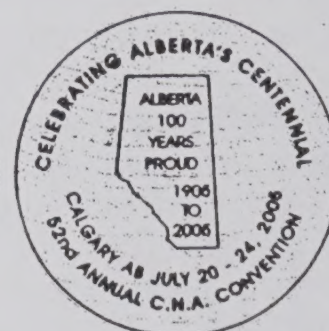
APPOINTED OFFICERS

Editor: ROSS KINGDON
 Fund Raiser: LOU VESH
 Auction Coordinator: AL MUNRO

DUES: Membership dues in the Canadian Association of Wooden Money Collectors are:

Canadian Residents: \$10.00 Canadian Funds
 United States Residents: \$10.00 U.S. Funds
 International Members Rate (outside of Canada and U.S.): \$20.00 Canadian Funds
 Youth (16 years of age and under): \$5.00

Dues paid to Mr. Al Munro, Box 2643 Stn. 'M', Calgary, AB, Canada T2P 3C1

FREE WOOD OF THE MONTH

This month's free wood comes courtesy of our new President, *Al Munro*. This is the wood that Al and his wife Marion distributed at the recent C.A.W.M.C. annual general meeting and C.N.A. convention held in Calgary. Al's considerable involvement as General Chairman with this convention is all summarized in his 'President's Message' on page one. This wood is red in colour on both sides. Thank you Al and Marion for this donation.

SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT:

In the August 2005 newsletter, your editor, in his writing of "*Snippets Of Our CAWMC Past*", indicated that he thought that the late Jim Deluney of Angus, Ont. was the first Canadian manufacturer of wooden tokens to use the hot-stamped process. Well, *I was wrong* and I apologize to our long-time CAWMC member, Lou Vesh who graciously submits this following article. *Lou Vesh gets credit as being that FIRST Canadian hot-stamp wooden token manufacturer.* Thank you for responding, Lou.

MY WOODEN NICKEL'S WORTH..... by Lou Vesh

Not meaning to be a glory grabber, but just to keep historical facts straight I'd like to use this space to clarify an error in the August/05 issue of Timber Talk. Having already spoken with our worthy editor, Ross, being the good sport that he is, suggested that I write something on it. Although I could be wrong on this too, I've always thought that I was first with the use of hot stamping on wooden nickels. This is how my story goes.

Early in 1983 I went to Canada Stamp Co., 4 William Morgan Dr., Toronto to order some rubber stamps for use on wooden nickels. In conversation with the young man at the counter, I revealed my intended use for the stamps. He immediately replied "Why don't you hot stamp them?" This was the first time I'd ever heard the term, and to rectify my bewildered look he took me on a tour of the plant to show me what hot stamping was all about. I left with a price list and some brochures, happy and excited at the possibilities of this new (to me) process. Later that year, when I had resigned myself to the \$1,400 expenditure, I returned to Canada Stamp and bought the machine, and learned as much possible about using it. It took me some time to experiment with the application and familiarize myself with its use. However, I did manage to produce a hot stamped wood for Christmas of 1983. This was my 7th wooden nickel issue. The first six were rubber stamped.

This new multi-coloured wood stirred some excitement when I showed it to other collectors at a Southern Ontario Chapter meeting. The result was a flood of requests to make hot stamped woods for Christmas of that same year. I hurriedly ordered more dies and was able to make woods for Al Bliman, Russ Brown, Howard Richardson, Albert Kasman, George Fraser, and Norm Belsten. Everyone was happy. That is, every one except Jim Deluney. Apparently, Al Bliman cautioned Jim Deluney that Lou Vesh was going to put him out of business with this "hot" new product. How rumors doth fly! I had no intention of going into business then, and still turn down requests today to make woods for this person or that company. Nevertheless, Jim promptly went out and bought a huge hot stamping press and in 1984 starting banging out a new breed of wood. He made some very nice ones too, and I'm happy to have been one who helped motivate him to his success.

And that's my story, as I remember it. Here's hoping no one is offended by it, and no past member is turning over in his grave.

(file: Nworth72)

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CALGARY C.N.A. CONVENTION 2005 'WOODEN' TOKENS ISSUED:

Shown here are *some* of the 'woods' issued at the CAWMC general meeting in Calgary. I assume all woods shown are available from the issuer for a self addressed stamped envelope (SASE). Addresses are shown.



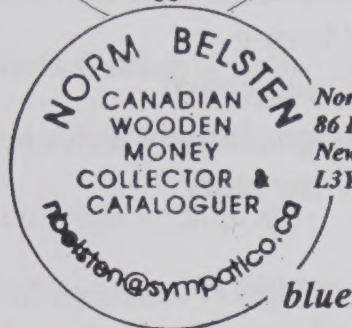
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blue



red



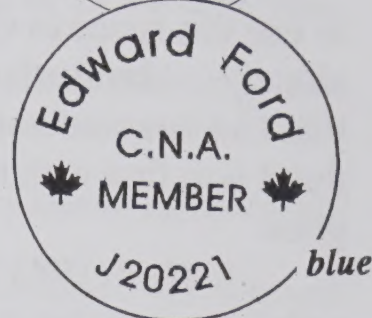
Norm Belsten
86 Hamilton Dr.
Newmarket, ON Can.
L3Y 3E8

blue

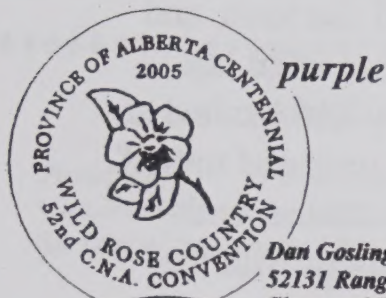


red

Terry O'Brien
R.R.#1
Lorretto, ON Can.
L0G 1L0



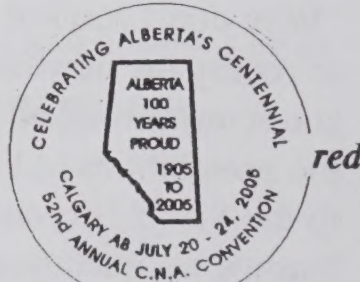
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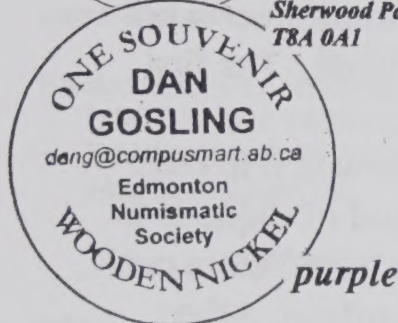
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multi



red

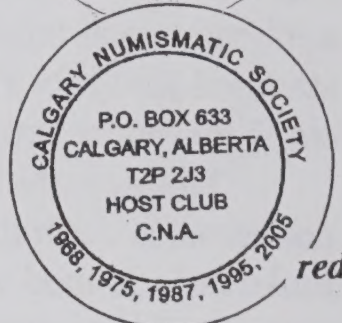


purple

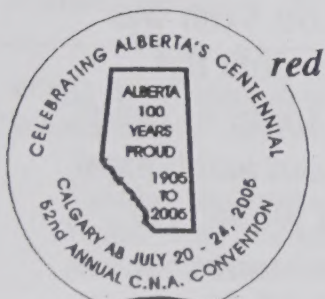


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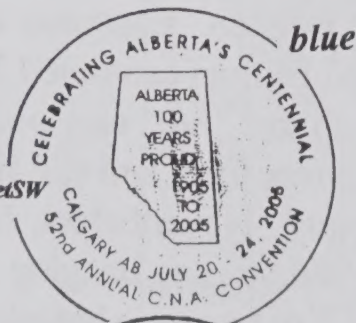


red



red

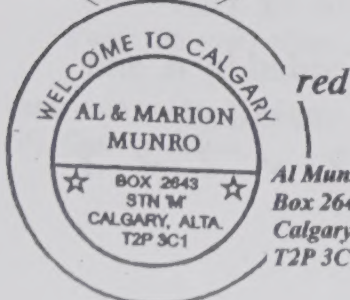
Neil Probert
2nd Floor, 5520-2 Street SW
Calgary, AB Can.
T2H 0G9



blue



red



red

Al Munro
Box 2643 Stn. 'M'
Calgary, AB Can.
T2P 3C1



blue

Stan Clute
Apt. 113-710-57 Ave. S.W.
Calgary, AB Can.
T2V 4Z6



blue

AN ALASKAN CHRONICLE – continued by David ‘Rusty’ Phillips

Continuing northward on our “Alaskan Cruise” towns, we come to the third Port Of Call, which is usually

SKAGWAY - This town is located at the head of a narrow, natural fiord (Lynn Canal). The town sits on a narrow strip of delta land between two ranges of mountains. The two rivers run into the Lynn Canal from the narrow valley to the east of Skagway (see map).

These rivers, the Taiya, on the north side of the valley, and the Skagway, on the south, were the routes through the mountains to the interior.

The two trails adjacent to the two rivers became famous in 1898, as the 33 mile long Chilkoot Trail, and the 40 mile long White Pass Trail. Skagway was the starting point for both. Both trails ultimately lead to the gold strikes near Dawson City, Yukon. (An item of trivia: The Klondike Gold Rush Trail was considered to be 1500 miles long, e.g. from Seattle to Dawson City. Of the distance, only 33 miles was ‘on the ground’, e.g. Skagway to Bennett Lake. The rest of the distance was ‘on the water’.) At the top of the Chilkoot Pass, the North West Mounted Police insisted that each person entering Canada had one year’s supply of food and other life support goods. This worked out to be one ton of supplies per person, which all had to be carried over the 33 mile Trail, requiring countless trips per person !!

The construction of the now famous White Pass & Yukon Railroad in 1899 – 1900 to Whitehorse, Yukon, ensured that Skagway would live on after the gold rush. The railroad moved supplies into the interior and hauled mining concentrates back to tidewater.

Now, Skagway is predominately a tourist community. It’s population of 880 more than triples during the Cruising Season, as ‘extra’ citizens come to town to work in the gift shops, hotels & restaurants, conduct day trips in tour buses and on the W.P. & Y. R.R., etc. The history in and around this town is fascinating! !

The two woods I have chosen to illustrate from Skagway, both originate from the same location, but are different. The story, as I have managed to piece it together, goes something like this: - Approximately, in 1987, 1988 or thereabouts, the Proprietess of the Gift Shop, ‘The Door Knob’, started handing out wooden tokens to customers and passers-by. These woods were not dated, and there were three different variations of these ‘no date’ woods. Then in 1990 and thereafter, she had the woods dated. The same obverse was used each year. This continued until 1998 for sure. Somewhere about here, she passed away. I do not know if there was a wood produced for 1999...

Her daughter then took over the store, renamed it ‘The Purple Moose’, and continued the tradition of handing out dated wooden tokens. The ‘Purple Moose’ woods that I am aware of started in 2000 (1999? ?) and continue to 2004. (If any of the readers, or their friends, have or are going on an Alaskan Cruise during this 2005 Cruise season, please beg, borrow or steal an extra 2005 Purple Moose wood for me and my collection! !)

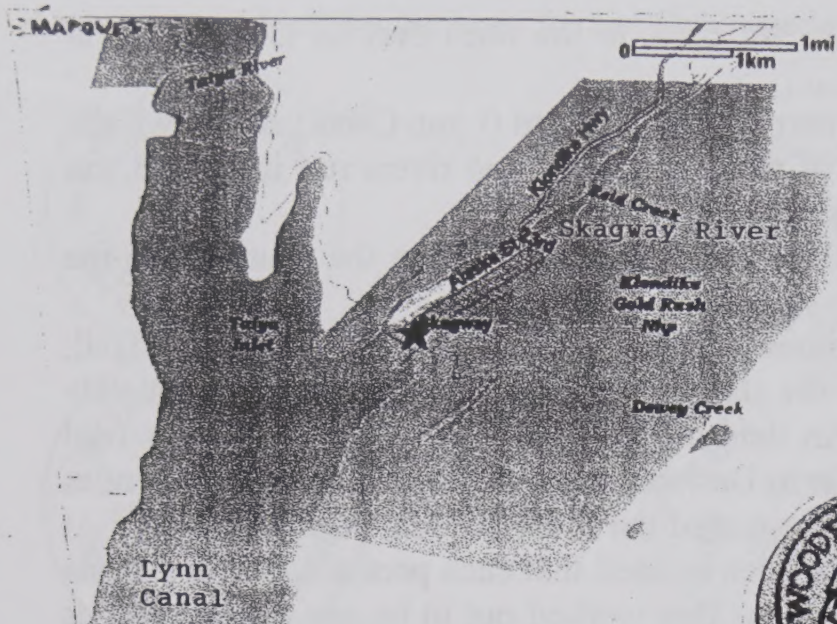
Incidentally, in all cases of the ‘Door Knob’ & ‘Purple Moose’ woods, the ink on all the issues is black on both sides and the size of the woods is the standard 38mm..

There are 10 different issues of woods from Skagway, of which I am aware. Of these, 6 have variations (some have quite a few variations, e.g. The ‘Door Knob’ with 15 variations; ‘Moe’s Frontier Bar’ with 6, etc.). Thus the total number of woods from Skagway equals 39 woods.



-continued on page 6

AN ALASKAN CHRONICLE - SKAGWAY - continued from page 5



3 No Date Woods,
all with same
Reverse



3 sample dated
Door Knob Woods,
all with same
obverse



3 sample dated
Purple Moose
woods, all with
same Obverse

